

**Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee
Minutes of Monday, April 3, 2006**

The Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee met on Monday, April 3, 2006, in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Municipal Government Center, 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members Present

Elizabeth Whiting, Chair

Brian Rolston

Terry Elvers

Gabe Kelemen

Planning Commissioner Member Brett Burk

LVFC Jim Csizmadia

Town Staff Present

Calvin Grow

Jim Chandler

Nick Colonna

Members of Public

Kelly Mulaire

Trevor Paradis

1. *Minutes:* On motion by Terry Elvers, seconded by Brett Burk, the minutes of the March 6, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. *Public Comment:* Trevor Paradis and Kelly Mulaire, who reside at 432 South King Street, just south of where their neighbors' house was knocked off its foundation by an intoxicated driver, stated that they came to learn more about civic affairs in Leesburg and that they supported the South King Street/Fairfax Street median feature. Jim Csizmadia expressed concern about the possible impact on Fire/Rescue response and asked to review the construction plans. He was reassured that emergency vehicles would be accommodated as described by Calvin Grow.
3. *VRTA/Safe-T-Ride ridership:* Liz Whiting noted that charts had been circulated via email last week. Brett Burk created the charts and acknowledged staff work to confirm and correct the numbers where needed. Committee members indicated that the visual representation of trends was extremely helpful. They were also pleased by the initial indications that the Trolley did not seem to be significantly reducing users of Safe-T-Ride.
4. *Tennessee Drive:* Calvin Grow reviewed the speed studies performed in the vicinity of Tennessee Drive and Princeton Court and reported that because one of the units appeared to be faulty, studies would be repeated for next month's meeting. Committee members noted "rogue" speeds of concern (50 mph twice) and surprise that they occurred in the direction opposite of what they expected. They also noted that the low westbound traffic volumes on Tennessee Drive didn't seem consistent with the perception that it had become a cut-through route.
5. *Update on FY '06 and '07 budget requests:* Liz Whiting noted that the FY '06 budget balance has been carried forward as a FY '08 CIP line item for the South King Street median. Calvin Grow reported that the Town Manager recommended \$80,000.00 for FY '07, the same amount as last year. Liz Whiting asked Committee members to come to

May's meeting prepared to vote on programs to get the funds applied early and stressed the need to balance requests among quadrants and program types. In response to an inquiry by Brian Rolston, Liz Whiting noted her expectation that either two or three of the "first installment" traffic calming requests by the Ad Hoc Southwest Committee would be included in the FY '07 recommendations. Liz Whiting noted that she would speak in favor of these items for the Committee, as well as any CIP items on which the Committee decided. See item #10.

6. *Route 15 North sign proliferation*: Calvin Grow reported that he had met VDOT representatives on site. They agreed that much of the signage is confusing and, indeed, noted at least two/unapproved illegal signs would be removed. While present, they witnessed a northbound truck that entirely missed being steered through the intersection with the Bypass and entered southbound lanes before escaping to the median, as well as truck traffic executing awkward lane changes to enter intended travel lanes. The Committee expressed encouragement that VDOT acknowledged that existing signage and markings fail to promote the intended outcomes and appear committed to effecting improvements.

7. *Smart Trailer update (including Woods Edge Drive)*: Due to Mark McCartney's absence, this item was carried over to the May meeting.

8. *South King Street update*: See item #5.

9. *Potomac Station Drive/Tonquin Drive update*: Calvin Grow reported that a letter from the Mayor to the Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) will request installation of the requested on-demand pedestrian warning lights and that Mike Lunsford of LCPS believed it may be possible to complete the installation this fiscal year.

10. *CIP recommendations*: Liz Whiting noted that she asked Calvin Grow to bring this forward so that the Committee could decide whether to support and/or oppose various items in this portion of the budget. Liz Whiting proposed to support and oppose the various items in the budget. She suggested that her support be presented as representative of the Committee and her opposition as her individual position, which the Committee supported.

11. *Committee concerns*: Gabe Kelemen raised two items: (i) Dodona Manor is attracting substantially higher volumes of visitors that are walking in Edwards Ferry Road, where no sidewalks exist or are presently planned. Jim Csizmadia noted Leesburg Volunteer Fire Department (LFVD) concerns that the planned construction of the fence would require any fire within the fencing be allowed to burn itself out. Since the Company has no safe access off-road to fight such a fire, the restored home could be at risk in the event of fire as inadequate access into the site was designed to allow protection of the facility. Nick Colonna agreed to act as the Committee's ambassador to communicate these concerns. (ii) Gabe Kelemen also noted the pedestrian crossing warning signs installed in the Town Purcellville and questioned why they couldn't be used in the Town of Leesburg. The Committee expressed the consensus that there was a

problem with too many signs in Town, not too few, and their preference for aggressive education and enforcement rather than the installation of more signs. Liz Whiting also referred the Committee to renewed requests for pedestrian safety education as part of their FY '07 request as among the initiatives they would have to prioritize. (iii) *Brian Rolston* asked about the status of the Southwest recommendations: see item #5.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, May 1, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Staff is to contact Liz Whiting if anything arises needing Committee consideration in the interim.